

THE CLEVELAND MUSEUM OF ART

ARTIST BIOGRAPHY

Please complete and return the following questionnaire for our reference file on May Show artists.

FULL NAME: Norcen Dziat

PRESENT POSITION Artist

DATE AND PLACE OF BIRTH: 1-5-47 - Lorain, Ohio

CATEGORY/PRIMARY MEDIA: Misc., Gourds, Decorative

ART TRAINING (Schools, Scholarships, etc.):

1983 - Apprentice one year to Don Weeke, self taught Artist

EXHIBITIONS IN WHICH YOUR WORK HAS BEEN SHOWN (include location and year):

Please see listing in Documentary work -

COLLECTIONS THAT NOW INCLUDE YOUR WORK:

Please see listing in Documentary work -

AWARDS:

Please see listing in Documentary work -

We would appreciate having a statement about your philosophy and work as an artist—either general or something specific about the piece(s) selected for this year's May Show to aid us in the preparation of gallery talks and in the release of publicity materials. For more space, use the back of this sheet.

Can send Black & white negative if requested.

DESERT AXIOM

Noreen Dzat

1800 W. Magee

Tucson, Arizona 85704

(602-297-1739)

Galleries

Adagio Galliers
Amerinds Tribal Arts
Attic Fantasies
El Taller
Esquinita De Beau
Foley's
Galeria de Porcelana
The Gold Room
Josie's
The Plain's Gallery
The Potted Owl
Qué Pasa
Running Horse Gallery
Sanders Galleries
Santa Fe Ambiance
Southwestern Galleria
Sundance Enterprises
Tohono Chul, Westhouse
Totally Southwest, Inc.
Tucson Museum of Art
Village Gallery
Wasatch Trading Company

Palm Springs, CA
Beverly Hills, CA
Aspen, CO
Santa Fe, NM
Scottsdale, AZ
Tucson, AZ
Sedona, AZ
Marble, CO
Carefree, AZ
Portland, ME
Tubac, AZ
Scottsdale, AZ
Tucson, AZ
Tucson, AZ
Boulder, CO
Chandler, AZ
Sundance, UT
Tucson, AZ
Tucson, AZ
Tucson, AZ
Jacksonville, OR
Park City, UT

Private Collection

Kirmeyer School of Fiber Studies

San Jose, CA

Exhibited Shows

Albuquerque, NM
Big Bear, CA
Boulder, CO
Cloudcroft, NM
Fountain Hills, AZ
Hermoso Beach, CA
Las Vegas, NV
Novato, CA
Park City, UT
Salt Lake City, UT
San Francisco, CA
Santa Barbara, CA
Santa Fe, NM
Sierra Vista, AZ
Tempe, AZ
Tubac, AZ
Tucson, AZ

April, 1987
June, 1984
June, 1985
May, 1987
November, 1984, 85, 86
May, 1983
March, 1986
June, 1984
August, 1986, 87
June, 1986
June, 1984
August, 1983
September, 1985, 86
August, 1984
December + April/May, 1983, 84, 85, 86, 87
February, 1985, 87, 88
April, 1984, 85, 86

Awards

1983 Purchase Award
1984 Second Place
1985 Best of Show
Honorable Mention
1986 Best of Show
1987 Recognition Award
1988 Third Place

Tempe, AZ
Sierra Vista, AZ
Tucson, AZ
Tucson, AZ
Tucson, AZ
Albuquerque, NM
Tubac, AZ

Nature has always been mystical and an exciting place in my life; especilly as a child growing up in Ohio! I found my security and and refuge in Nature.

I moved to California in July, 1972. There I learned about organic gardening and farming. I studied plant life and herbs for several years before learning to make baskets.

My basket making started with a class given by a talented couple, Susanna Abram and Bob Ripley, in Ramona, California, February, 1982. During that time, I became an apprentice to an extra ordinary basket maker, Don Weekee, for a year. I continued to learn basic techniques such as weaving, coiling, and twining, along with structure such as melon baskets, potato baskets and Appalacian baskets.

I use only natural materials that I have gathered in different areas of the Southwest. They include native plants and trees, fruitwood, Palm trees, pine needles, various leaves, grasses, vines, unique roots and gourds. I am always exploring for new ideas and materials.

Since I've moved to Tucson, Arizona, in July, 1984, I've felt inspired by the spirituality of different Indian cultures and especially the energy that is generated in this area.

In the winter of 1985 at the U of A, I attended an Advanced Fiber Arts Class with Gayle Wimmer. There I began to understand how basket making and my innergrowth affect my evolution. They are complementing one another and constantly changing one another. I am able to explore even further into form.

In May, 1985, I attended a class with Margret Manual, a Papago Indian, at Tumacacori Mission. She instructed us in Papago basket techniques and the collection of material from the desert. From her, I learned a new degree of patience, love and union with nature.

I want to attribute credit to our native women and acknowledge her basket making as the beginning of Industrial Art and Science; also to reclaim the respect of a forgotten art, basketry, an imitation of nature - the first art form.

Tucson basket weaver transforms nature into art

Noreen Dzat considers the baskets she weaves as sculptures.

The 37-year-old Tucsonian was given a purchase award at last fall's Old Town Tempe Festival of the Arts and is returning to this year's festival to join other basket weavers in exhibiting their arts.

"I really love working with natural materials," Dzat said. "Basket weaving takes a little time and creativity and a certain feeling."

Dzat learned her craft 2½ years ago while living 30 miles outside of San Diego. After taking a few classes, she became the apprentice of Don Weeke, a longtime California basket weaver.

"He was a lot of my inspiration," Dzat said.

"I had a lot of creativity but wasn't doing much with it," she said. "I've been really fond of nature and it seemed like a perfect opportunity to do something about it."

Dzat uses fruitwood, New Zealand flax, pine needles, willow leaves, gourds, palm tree leaves and various roots. She gathers her materials in southern Arizona creekbeds.

"Nature is so beautiful and it gives us so many things we can use," she said.

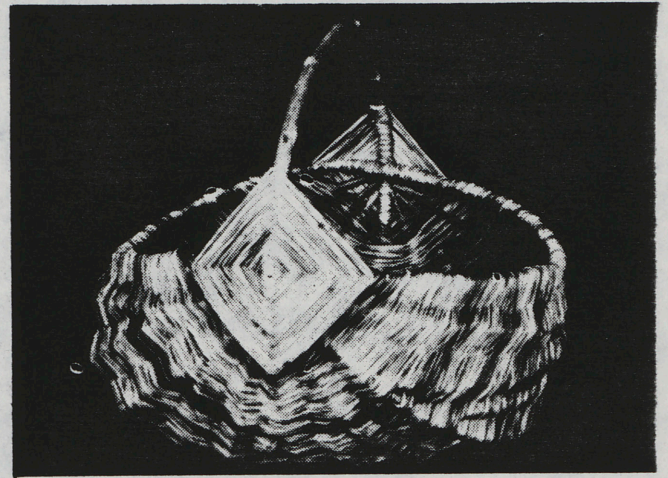
Dzat moved to Tucson four months ago and began making baskets for a living, leaving a career in counseling juveniles.

She said she's been looking forward to the 1984 Fall Festival of the Arts, her third time at the Tempe art fair.

"The people are just so receptive and open," she said. "A lot of them are appreciative of fine, quality work, and that's a blessing to any craftsman."



Noreen Dzat, an exhibitor at the festival, displays one of basket weavings.



Arts and crafts of all types are brought from around the United States. This beautiful hand-woven basket is just one of the many surprises waiting at the festival.

Tempe Daily News, Tempe, Az. 1984 Spring



FOOTHILLS MALL

7401 North LaCholla Boulevard • Tucson, AZ 85741
602 742-7191

October 10, 1985

Ms. Noreen Dzat
1800 West Magee
Tucson, Arizona 85704

Dear Ms. Dzat:

Congratulations! The Foothills Mall is pleased to inform you that your piece, "Transfigurations", received an honorable mention in the Artists of the Southwest Exhibit. Thank you for helping us provide a quality art show for the Tucson community.

We appreciate your participation.

Congratulations again.

Sincerely,

Tracy Z. Levy
Promotion Coordinator

TZL:mw

HONORABLE MENTION

NOREEN DZIAT

"Transfigurations"



Black walls and French doors in the living room add drama to a collection of art, antiques and objets d'arts. Left: Painting is by Jim Waid; serigraph is by Julia Marin. The antique-looking chest beneath the painting is actually an amalgam of objects McNulty found, including table legs from a church in New York, a lid found in the desert, a shipping box for glasses, some gold leaf and moulding. The tete-a-tete was once used as a prop for drawing classes. Gourd on the small table is by Noreen Dzial. Above: A serigraph by Jon Lightfoot and large ceramic piece by McNulty are the focal points of another corner of the living room. The buffet, now covered with hand-marbled paper, was once used as a cooking surface. A fringed throw and a bejeweled lamp add a Twenties flair to the corner. Mask is by Susie Barnes-Moore.

Phoenix Home & Garden Oct. 1986

Giftalogue

sponsored by

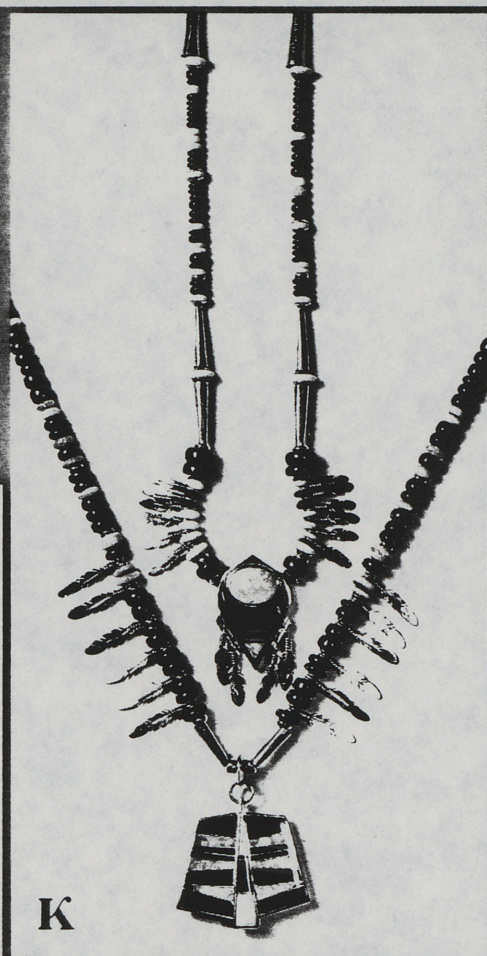
J. El Taller Gallery

K. Joe Wade Fine Arts

L. New Trends Gallery



J



K

Baskets and Bowls! Pyrograph, design basket gourds, coiled with pine needles and date sticks by Noreen Dzat \$65-150. Geometric motifs grace exotic wood handcrafted turnings by Euclid Moore \$400-450. **EL TALLER GALLERY**, 235 Don Gaspar, Santa Fe, N.M. 87501. 505/988-9298.

Wear a masterpiece! The irresistible majesty of sugilite (that prized purple stone), opals, and gold hand molded into breathtaking one-of-a-kind objects d'Art by Native American artist Danny Romero. Other exceptional collections of art and the genius in jewelry at **JOE WADE FINE ARTS**, El Centro, 102 E. Water St., Santa Fe, N.M. 505/988-2727.

The Santa Fean mag. - Nov. 1986 V.14 #10



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Glorious Wing Chair! Cover, from the Jacqueline Rochester Collection, is hand-dye painted and Scotch-guard™ canvas. "Soft paintings," Wearable-Art Jackets and Vests in exciting designer colors. Unusual jewelry, both old and contemporary, timeless Tarahumara pots, stained glass, and sculpture, by the artist William Rane, Nancy Young, Robert Stevens, Sharon Craft, John Wilbar, Sandra Bowden, Doris Ernst, Earl Eder, Cloud Eagle, Herb Peterson, and Kit Schweitzer are all at **NEW TRENDS GALLERY**, 228 Old Santa Fe Trail, across from The Inn at Loretto, West along the Alameda. 505/988-1199.

ARIZONA SANCTUARY DEFENSE FUND

AZ. Sanctuary Defense Fund
1748 S. 7th Avenue
Tucson, AZ. 85713

Dear Friends,

The Arizona Sanctuary Defense Fund would like to express direct appreciation for your contribution to the art auction in October. The art auction was a success. Sales exceeded over \$22,000.

If you are still interested in participating in support of sanctuary, we welcome your involvement. The Phoenix fundraising committee is planning an art event in the future. Please direct all inquiries to us at the following address :

Arizona Sanctuary Defense Fund
1748 S. 7th Avenue
Tucson, AZ. 85713
602-792-2852

You should be proud of your participation in the art auction. For all those involved with the event, the auction was a meaningful humanitarian statement by the participating artists.

Sincerely,

Edwina Vogan

Edwina Vogan
AZ. Sanctuary Defense Fund

Artwork sold to : Andrew Bliskorn Phone 294-8517

Artist's name : Norlen Dizon Sold for 110-

POST OFFICE BOX 7235, PHOENIX, ARIZONA 85011